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Kathleen Bodine
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September 12, 2003
Date

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

ATWAL ET AL.

Examiner: Rao, D.

APPLICATION NO: 09/729,731

FILED: DECEMBER 5, 2000

FOR: HETEROCYCLIC DIHYDROPYRIMIDINE COMPOUNDS

Box Amendment
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please enter the preliminary amendments shown in the attached status of the claims in this application, which is being filed as a divisional of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/729,731, filed December 5, 2000. No new matter is added in this continuation application.

REMARKS

Claims 55-73 are pending in this application. Original claims 1-54 have been canceled.

The presently pending claims are not taught or suggested by any prior art. In particular, the art does not teach the use of compounds as are claimed to specifically treat atrial arrhythmias, or to treat any of the other indications as are claimed.

Applicants submit that the amendments presented herein place the claims in condition for immediate allowance, and such favorable action is respectfully requested. If a telephonic



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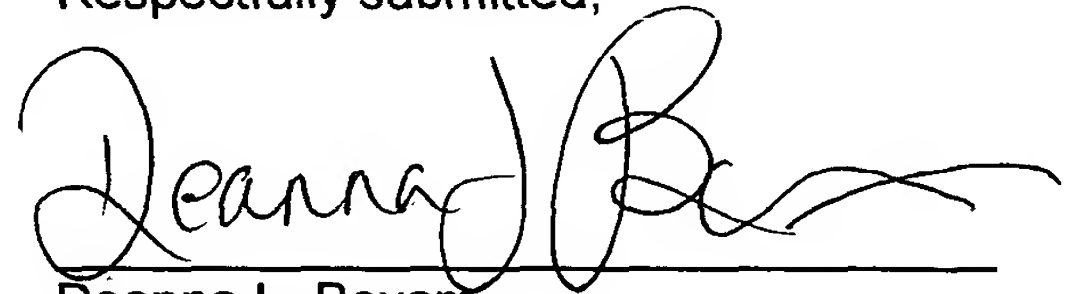
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communication would further expedite the process, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number provided.

Please charge any necessary additional fees associated with this filing or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-3880. Separate authorization for such charges is included in the accompanying Transmittal Letter.

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deanna L. Baxam", written over a horizontal line.

Deanna L. Baxam
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 45,266

Date: September 12, 2003